

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

1220 N Street, Room A-224
Sacramento, CA 95814-5607
Phone (916) 654-1456
Fax (916) 654-0867
E-mail: dairy@cdfa.ca.gov

William (Bill) J. Lyons, Jr., Secretary

June 25, 2002

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

On June 21, 2002, the Department received a petition for a public hearing from Western United Dairymen. The petition regards proposed amendments to the Class 4a and 4b pricing formulas. Yesterday, June 24, 2002, the Department received a petition from Milk Producers Council requesting a public hearing on the Class 4a pricing formulas.

Copies of both petitions can be obtained by contacting the Dairy Marketing Branch at the telephone number or email address above. You may also download copies of the petitions from our website at www.cdfa.ca.gov/dairy. From the home page, click on "Public Hearings" and then on "Petitions Received by the Department".

Pursuant to regulation, within fifteen days of the receipt of a petition, the Department must either schedule the matter for public hearing or deny the petition in writing indicating why the Secretary reached that decision on the merits of the petition.

The Department will carefully weigh the merits of both petitions and will respond no later than July 5, 2002, regarding the Western United petition and July 8, 2002, with regard to the Milk Producers Council petition, with a decision on whether or not to call a hearing on the matter raised in each petition.

Should you have any questions regarding the Department's process for reviewing hearing petitions, please contact Eric Erba or Tom Gossard at the telephone number or email address above.

Sincerely,

David K. Ikari, Chief
Dairy Marketing Branch